

VZCZCXRO6562  
OO RUEHCI  
DE RUEHKT #0026 0080629  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 080629Z JAN 08  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7721  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 6223  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 6549  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 1810  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4573  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5812  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2103  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 3943  
RHMFIUU/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1959  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 3060

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 000026

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB/ESC/TFS (CBACKEMEYER), NEA/RA (LGOTTLIEB),  
S/CT (TDROZDENKO), AND SCA/INS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [KTFN](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [SY](#) [LE](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: TERRORISM FINANCE: SYRIA/LEBANON DESIGNATIONS  
DELIVERED TO NEPAL

REF: STATE 161591

Designations Delivered to Foreign Ministry  
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¶1. On January 3 and 7, Emboff delivered reftel information regarding the U.S. domestic designation of Syrian and Lebanese individuals to Mani Bhattarai, Section Officer for UN and International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). Bhattarai reviewed the information and said the MFA would inform post if it became aware of assets associated with these individuals.

Central Bank Questions Relevance of Information  
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¶2. On January 7, Emboff delivered reftel information to Narayan Prasad Paudel, Director of Banks and Financial Institutions Regulation at Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB), the central bank of Nepal. Paudel requested a formal diplomatic note from post or the Department for the NRB to use as a cover sheet to distribute the information to Nepal's banks and financial institutions. The Rastra Bank office director also asked if the United States honestly believed these individuals' assets would be discovered in Nepal. Emboff said the United States would appreciate any help Nepal's government and banks could provide.

Comment  
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¶3. The request by the NRB director, whom Emboff was meeting for the first time, for a diplomatic note came as a surprise. Other, more junior, NRB officials -- including Poudel's deputy -- have responded positively to previous designations provided as non-papers. Post will follow up with MFA contacts to address Rastra Bank's unusual reluctance to provide assistance.  
POWELL